

## **Lifespan Respite Care Program**

### **Project Summary**

**Grantee Organization:** Alabama Department of Senior Services

**State:** Alabama

**Project Period:** August 2012 through February 2014

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#### **Project Overview:**

The Alabama Department of Senior Services (ADSS), in partnership with the Alabama Lifespan Respite Resource Network, the Alabama Lifespan Respite Coalition, and the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC), propose to expand lifespan respite in the state. The primary **goal** of the project is to provide a statewide, coordinated approach to meeting the respite care needs of Alabama family caregivers of individuals with disabilities and chronic conditions regardless of age, income, race, ethnicity, special needs, or situation.

To accomplish this goal, the project will address the following **objectives**: 1) enhance the capacity of the Alabama Respite Network through the Sharing the Care Program; 2) identify agencies and organizations currently providing caregiver training and support by linking caregivers to such resources through the ADRCs and the Lifespan Respite Network; 3) expand collaborative work with Coalition partners to recruit and train respite care workers and volunteers statewide; 4) build capacity of Lifespan Respite Programs utilizing information learned from the previous project and data outcome from surveys conducted by the University of Alabama at Birmingham; and 5) explore new local and state grant opportunities to increase respite services.

#### **Outcomes and Products:**

Anticipated **outcomes** include: 1) easier access to respite resources; 2) increased volunteer and faith-based providers; 3) greater awareness of the need for respite; and 4) sustainability of the project.

**Products** will include a lessons learned study through the expansion of Share the Care, training modules and materials, and ADRC and Lifespan website and social media enhancements.